

**EDGECOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MINUTES FROM MEETING
MARCH 13, 2007**

The Edgecombe County Board of Elections met, and the following persons were present: Gladys Shelton, Chairperson; Samuel Branch, Secretary; Betty Lewis, Member; and Gayle Hudson, Director. Also in attendance were Florence Armstrong, Curmilus Dancy, and Laura Ashley Lamm from *The Daily Southerner*.

Ms. Shelton called the meeting to order. The agenda was adopted.

The minutes of the meeting held on February 22, 2007 were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Hudson submitted a written report. A copy of that report is attached to these minutes. The Board requested that the Director send a letter to the principal at Johnson Elementary School, the polling place for Precinct 12-1, concerning the parking issues at the school.

The Board asked the Director to contact the tax office about the possibility of mailing flyers with tax bills. Both Ms. Shelton and Ms. Lewis said they would be willing to volunteer to insert the flyers into the envelopes.

The Board agreed that we should send the M100 machines to the polling places already locked into the ballot boxes if the issues of storage and delivery can be resolved. Ms. Hudson will talk with Jimmy Price about how this will affect the way the Maintenance Department delivers the boxes. She will also talk to Mr. Carmon about the need for climate-controlled space to test and store the boxes with the machines.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

There were no reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Board discussed the personnel vacancy. The decision was made by consensus that the vacancy would be posted as a full-time position. The job description will be changed to add the requirement that the applicant must be able to lift 40 pounds. The Director will check with the Human Resources Director to be certain that all legal requirements are met in the job vacancy announcement.

The State Board has not provided the final information about the instant runoff election pilot project. This item will be tabled until the next meeting.

The Board discussed the budget salary line item at length. Ms. Lewis made a motion that the budget be approved with the following change to the salary line item: Current Elections Clerk salaries will be increased by 10%, the Director's salary will be increased to \$40,000 (stated in a percentage increase) and the vacant position will be budgeted at

\$9.95 per hour to allow a higher starting salary for a well-qualified applicant. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the proposed budget is attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Dancy asked if the public could attend the State Board Training Conference in August. He also asked about the definition of a rover. He stated a complaint against Ms. Hudson concerning her statement at the preliminary hearing about rural mail delivery and an article in *The Rocky Mount Telegram* that said she had stated that Mr. Knight claimed three residences.

Ms. Lewis stated that she is increasingly concerned about our precinct officials having the technical skills needed as the state increases the technical aspects of precinct management.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of May 2007.

Secretary
